

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

--1. (Currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a file structure for storing a content object, being one of a book, a collection of images, an album, a video and a multimedia object, capable of being produced by a processing system and having a plurality of content entities to facilitate content adjustment, said file structure comprising:

an identifier file object containing a list of content entity identifiers defining the content of the content object, wherein ~~the~~ a hierarchical arrangement of the content entity identifiers within the list includes at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier and corresponds to a user-defined content object hierarchical structure ~~including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier~~, and wherein the content entity identifiers are determined by the processing system and placed in the list in response to user selection of content entities for the content object; and

a plurality of content file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list, wherein the content entity identifiers each include identification information identifying the content file object containing the content entity associated with that identifier;

Amendment

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

wherein the presence and position of content entity identifiers within said list are modifiable by the user to alter content and arrangement of the content object without manipulating the content entities identified by said content entity identifiers.

2. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said file structure further comprises an attribute file object containing at least one attribute pertaining to the content object.

3. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein at least one attribute is extracted from the content object.

4. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the content object, and said file structure further comprises one or more associated component file objects.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the content object is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes, chapters and sections.

Amendment
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

7. (Previously presented) The device of claim 4, wherein at least one of the associated components comprises an image.

8. (Currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a file structure for storing a hierarchically structured content object, being one of a book, a collection of images, an album, a video and a multimedia object, capable of being produced by a processing system and having a plurality of content entities to facilitate content adjustment, said file structure comprising:

an identifier file object containing ~~an~~ a hierarchical outline of containers and content entity identifiers defining the content and corresponding to a user-defined hierarchical structure of the content object, wherein each container represents ~~a hierarchical structure~~ an outline hierarchical tier and includes at least one content entity identifier forming a subordinate outline hierarchical tier, and wherein the content entity identifiers are determined by the processing system and placed in the outline in response to user selection of content entities for the content object; and

a plurality of content file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said outline, wherein the content entity identifiers each include identification information identifying the content file object containing the content entity associated with that identifier;

Amendment
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

wherein the presence and position of containers and individual content entity identifiers within said outline are modifiable by a user to alter content and structure of the content object without manipulating the content entities identified by said content entity identifiers.

9. (Previously presented) The device of claim 8, wherein said file structure further comprises an attribute file object containing at least one attribute pertaining to the content object.

10. (Previously presented) The device of claim 8, wherein at least one attribute is extracted from the content object.

11. (Previously presented) The device of claim 8, wherein ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the content object, and said file structure further comprises one or more associated component file objects.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the content object is a book and the containers are one or more of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

Amendment

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

14. (Previously presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the content object is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes, chapters and sections.

15. (Previously presented) The device of claim 11, wherein at least one of the associated components comprises an image.

16. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method of producing a user work in the form of a content object, being one of a book, a collection of images, an album, a video and a multimedia object, capable of being produced by a processing system and having a plurality of content entities each including at least one medium, comprising the steps of:

storing a list of content entity identifiers defining the content of the work within an identifier file object, wherein ~~the~~ a hierarchical arrangement of the content entity identifiers within the list includes at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier and corresponds to a user-defined work hierarchical structure ~~including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier~~, and wherein the content entity identifiers are determined by the processing system and placed in the list in response to user selection of content entities for the work;

storing the content entities identified by the content entity identifiers within a plurality of content file objects with each content file object containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list, wherein the content entity identifiers each

Amendment
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

include identification information identifying the content file object containing the content entity associated with that identifier; and

enabling modification of the presence and position of content entity identifiers within said list by a user to alter content and arrangement of the work without manipulating the content entities identified by said content entity identifiers.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of storing at least one attribute pertaining to the work in an attribute file object.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein at least one attribute is extracted from the work.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the work, and further comprising the step of storing the components in one or more associated component file objects.

20. (Canceled)

Amendment

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the work is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes, chapters and sections.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein at least one of the associated components comprises one of an image, a video segment, and an audio segment.

23. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method of producing a user work in the form of a content object, being one of a book, a collection of images, an album, a video and a multimedia object, capable of being produced by a processing system and having a plurality of content entities each including at least one medium, comprising the steps of:

storing ~~an~~ a hierarchical outline of containers and content entity identifiers defining the content and corresponding to a user-defined hierarchical structure of the work within an identifier file object, wherein each container represents ~~a hierarchical structure~~ an outline hierarchical tier and includes at least one content entity identifier forming a subordinate outline hierarchical tier, and wherein the content entity identifiers are determined by the processing system and placed in the outline in response to user selection of content entities for the work;

storing the content entities identified by the content entity identifiers within a plurality of content file objects with each content file object containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said outline, wherein the content entity identifiers each

Amendment
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

include identification information identifying the content file object containing the content entity associated with that identifier; and

enabling modification of the presence and position of containers and individual content entity identifiers within said outline by a user to alter content and structure of the work without manipulating the content entities identified by said content entity identifiers.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of storing at least one attribute pertaining to the work within an attribute file object.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein at least one attribute is extracted from the work.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the work, and further comprising the step of storing the components in one or more associated component file objects.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the work is a book and the containers are one or more of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

Amendment

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the work is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes, chapters and sections.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein at least one of the associated components comprises one of an image, a video segment and an audio segment.

31. (Currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for providing a file structure for storing a content object, being one of a book, a collection of images, an album, a video and a multimedia object, capable of being produced by a processing system and having a plurality of content entities, comprising:

a first set of program instructions for creating an identifier file object containing a list of content entity identifiers defining the content of the content object, wherein ~~the~~ a hierarchical arrangement of the content entity identifiers within the list includes at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier and corresponds to a user-defined content object hierarchical structure ~~including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier~~, and wherein the content entity identifiers are determined by the processing system and placed in the list in response to user selection of content entities for the content object; and

a second set of program instructions for creating a plurality of content file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list,

Amendment
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

wherein the content entity identifiers each include identification information identifying the content file object containing the content entity associated with that identifier;

wherein the presence and position of content entity identifiers within said list are modifiable by a user to alter content and arrangement of the content object without manipulating the content entities identified by said content entity identifiers.

32. (Previously presented) The device of claim 31, further comprising a third set of program instructions for creating an attribute file object containing at least one attribute pertaining to the content object.

33. (Previously presented) The device of claim 31, wherein at least one attribute is extracted from the content object.

34. (Previously presented) The device of claim 31, wherein ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the content object, and further comprising a third set of program instructions for creating one or more associated component file objects.

35. (Canceled)

Amendment
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

36. (Previously presented) The device of claim 31, wherein the content object is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes, chapters and sections.

37. (Previously presented) The device of claim 34, wherein at least one of the associated components comprises one of an image, a video segment, and an audio segment.

38. (Currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for storing a hierarchically structured content object, being one of a book, a collection of images, an album, a video and a multimedia object, capable of being produced by a processing system and having a plurality of content entities, comprising:

a first set of program instructions for creating an identifier file object containing ~~an a~~ hierarchical outline of containers and content entity identifiers defining the content and corresponding to a user-defined hierarchical structure of the content object, wherein each container represents ~~a hierarchical structure~~ an outline hierarchical tier and includes at least one content entity identifier forming a subordinate outline hierarchical tier, and wherein the content entity identifiers are determined by the processing system and placed in the outline in response to user selection of content entities for the content object; and

a second set of program instructions for creating a plurality of content file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said

Amendment
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

outline, wherein the content entity identifiers each include identification information identifying the content file object containing the content entity associated with that identifier;

wherein the presence and position of containers and individual content entity identifiers within said outline are modifiable by a user to alter content and structure of the content object without manipulating the content entities identified by said content entity identifiers.

39. (Previously presented) The device of claim 38, further comprising a third set of program instructions for creating an attribute file object containing at least one attribute pertaining to the content object.

40. (Previously presented) The device of claim 38, wherein at least one attribute is extracted from the content object.

41. (Previously presented) The device of claim 38, wherein ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the content object, and further comprising a third set of program instructions for creating one or more associated component file objects.

42. (Canceled)

Amendment

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/489,730

43. (Previously presented) The device of claim 38, wherein the content object is a book and the containers are one or more of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

44. (Previously presented) The device of claim 38, wherein the content object is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes, chapters and sections.

45. (Previously presented) The device of claim 41, wherein at least one of the associated components comprises one of an image, a video segment and an audio segment.

46 - 51. (Canceled)--